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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" As soon as the price reaches that level, Sir."

SRI KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE :—" A report appearing in yesterday's ' Mail ' says that the rice trading is dull in Tanjore district, because the demand for Tanjore rice from deficit districts this year has considerably declined and in view of the fact that Tanjore rice is better in quality than the rice exported from Andhra, will the Government consider the desirability of procurng more rice from Tanjore district? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" We do not intend to procure more than 75,000 tons from Tanjore district. The rest of the rice will be available for sale there in the open market."

Representation from the Tamilian students of the Anantapur Engineering College for transfer to any of the Engineering Colleges in the Madras State.

* 725 *Q.*—SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Tamilian students of the Anantapur Engineering College sent a memorandum to the Government asking for their mass transfer to any of the Engineering Colleges in the Madras State; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) After a detailed examination of the representations, the Government decided that it will not be practicable to effect a mass transfer of the students to the Engineering Colleges in the Madras State and that individual requests for transfer may be considered on merits as and when such requests are made."

Functions of Centre Khadi Officers.

* 726 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) since how long the Centre Khadi Officers have been functioning in the State?

(*b*) what their functions are?

(*c*) the annual expenditure on the establishment for the Khadi Scheme; and

(*d*) the amount of aid and loans disbursed in the year 1952 for the Khadi Scheme.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) Since December 1946.

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" (*b*) They have to attend to the day-to-day administration of the Government Intensive Khadi Centres under the instructions and guidance of the Director of Rural Welfare. The following are some of their important functions :—

(i) Supply of charkas and implements at cost price, the cost being recovered in instalments.

(ii) Supply of cotton to spinners who are in need of it at cost price.

(iii) Securing of weavers and spinners where there are no weavers and spinners.

(iv) Production of khadi and supply to Government Departments, etc.

(v) Disciplinary control over the subordinates.

(vi) Watching expenditure and receipts of the Centre.

(vii) Subordinate control of expenditure.

" (*c*) The annual expenditure on pay of establishments and allowances under Government Intensive Khadi Scheme is as follows :—

		RS.
1946–47	... ...	11,214
1947–48	... ...	1,09,662
1948–49	... ...	1,31,254
1949–50	... ...	1,56,750
1950–51	... ...	1,81,468
1951–52	... ...	1,82,441
1952–53	... ...	2,17,629

" (*d*) Nil."

SRI A. RATNAM :—" லட்சக் கணக்கான ரூபாய்கள் இந்த திட்டத்தில் செலவழிக்கப்படுகிறது என்று அமைச்சர் சொல்லுகிறார். எனவே இந்தப் பணம் எந்தத் திட்டத்தின் கீழ் செல்லுகிறது. காங்கிரஸுடன் தொடர்புள்ள ஸ்தாபனங்களுக்குத்தான் செல்லுகிறதா அல்லது இதர பொது மக்களுக்காக செலவழிக்கப்படுகிறதா ?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" If the hon. Member says that it is the view of the public that this money is spent on Congress people, he is entirely wrong and it shows that he does not at all reflect public opinion. This expenditure is not incurred on Congress people. It is spent on the indigenous khadi industry and on thousands of poor spinners and weavers."

8-10 a.m.

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" May I know the increase in the number of spinners and weavers in the last year as a result of the exertions of these officers?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I would like to have notice."

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SRI M. PALANIYANDI :—" கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் பதில் சொல்லும்போது கிராமத்திலுள்ள ஏழை மக்களுக்குப் பணம் போய் சேருகிறது என்று சொன்னார்கள். இது வாஸ்தவமாக இருந்தபோதிலும் அவ்வாறு ஒதுக்கப்பட்ட பணத்தை சரியாக கணக்கு வைக்காமல் கையாளப் படுகிறது. இதற்காக ஒரு கமிட்டி நிறுவி விசாரணை செய்ய அரசாங்கம் முன் வருமா ?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The Government have been keeping quite an effective supervision over this matter and there is no need for appointing any scrutinizing committee."

SRI T. ANANTHA PAI :—" What is the cost of the annual output and sale of khadi? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I am sorry I have to ask for notice of this question."

SRI S. DAIVASIGAMANY :—" Is not the working of this khadi scheme a drain on the resources of this State and, in view of the fact that the Government are giving all sorts of encouragement to handloom weavers, do not the Government think it necessary to give up this khadi scheme? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" If the hon. Member had had occasion to visit some of the villages in the intensive khadi areas like Tiruppur, he would not have put this question. The money is spent on poor people who earn their livelihood by spinning and weaving and who would otherwise be unemployed and be starving. Still, it is not a mere distribution of doles. The people spin yarn and weave it into very fine khadi cloth, and the khadi industry is promoted quite all right."

SRI B. K. NALLASWAMI :—" Is it not a known fact that the khadi produced in Government centres is inferior to the khadi produced in the institutions of the All-India Spinners Association and the other institutions and may I know whether the Government propose to set up some body to do research work? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I do not admit that the khadi produced at the Government centres is inferior to the khadi produced elsewhere. If the hon. Member will kindly meet me in my chamber at some convenient time, I can show him samples of very fine varieties of khadi produced at Government centres and then he will be convinced that this khadi is good and even superior to the khadi produced elsewhere."

SRI S. R. ARUMUGAM :—" இந்த சர்க்கார் கதர் திட்டத்தை ஆரம்பிக்கும் போது அகில பாரத சர்க்கா சங்கத்தின் ஒத்துழைப்பைக்கொண்டு தான் நிறுவப்பட்டது. பிறகு அதன் ஒற்றுழைப்பை சர்க்கார் நாடவில்லை, காரணம் என்ன ? சர்க்கார் கதர் தொழிலுக்கும், அகில பாரத சர்க்கா கதர் சங்கத்திற்கும் கொள்கையில் ஏற்பட்ட அபிப்பிராய பேதமா ? அல்லது கதர் தொழிலில் சர்க்காருக்கு ஏற்பட்ட அனுபவத்தினலேயா ? "

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The hon. Member need not plead for the All-India Spinners Association. There is an All-India Khadi and Village Industries Board constituted under the auspices of the Government of India. The Government Khadi Department is working in full co-operation and co-ordination with that Central Board."

SRI M. JAGANNATHAN :—" As the money spent on khadi centres goes to support thousands of poor khadi spinners and weavers, will the Government consider the desirability of opening more khadi centres and spending more money on the khadi centres? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Wherever poor workers, who have no employment, could be employed on spinning and weaving khadi and wherever there is demand, we have been trying to open khadi centres there. We have been thinking of ways and means for expanding khadi production."

SRI K. PARTHASARATHY :—" The Hon. Minister said that one of the functions of the Centre Khadi Officers was to sell cotton to needy weavers. Are the Government aware that they insist on the spinners purchasing cotton only from the Centre and will they issue a circular instructing them not to insist on it? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I shall look into the matter."

SRI P. JEEVANANDAM :—" கனம் அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் ஒரு கேள்விக்கு பதில் சொல்லும்போது இதனால் ஏழை எளியவர்கள் பயன் அடைவதாக சொன்னார்கள். அதைத் தெரிந்துகொள்ளவேண்டுமென்று சொன்னால் திருப்பூர் போன்ற இடங்களுக்குச் சென்றால் தெரியும் என்றும் சொன்னார்கள். நான் தமிழ் நாட்டில் கதர் கைத்தொழில் செய்யும் பல கேந்திரங்களுக்குச் சென்றிருந்தேன். சர்க்கார் தரப்பிலிருந்து தெரிந்து கொள்ள விரும்புவது என்னவென்றால் லட்சக்கணக்கான ரூபாய் இந்தக் காரியத்திற்கு செலவிடப்படுகிறது. உண்மையில் மில் தொழில் போன்று கதரை ஒரு தொழிலாக மக்கள் ஏற்றுக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்ற நோக்கத்தாலா அல்லது கதர் தொழிலை ஊக்குவிப்பதற்காக அனுதாபம் காட்டி இவ்வளவு பணத்தைச் செலவு செய்கிறார்களா ? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" One object of khadi production is that those who are otherwise unemployed should be provided with some employment as spinners. The other object is that we should promote khadi as a cottage industry."

SRI A. GOVINDASAMY NAYAGAR :—" இந்த காங்கிரஸ் மந்திரி சபை கதர் அபிவிருத்தியை ஆதரிக்கிறார்கள் என்றால், இந்த மந்திரி சபையில் எத்தனை மந்திரிகள் கதர் கட்டுகிறார்கள் ? அப்படி கதர் கட்டாத மந்திரிகள் எத்தனை பேர் இருக்கிறார்கள் ?"

MR. SPEAKER :—" இங்கு இருக்கும் மந்திரிகளைப் பார்த்தாலே தெரியுமே, யார் கதர் அணிந்திருக்கிறார்களென்று ? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The hon. Member himself can answer that question."

SRI M. PALANIYANDI :—" அந்த கதர் செண்டர்களிலுள்ள ஊழியர்கள் பணம் கையாடி, அவர்களிடமிருந்து பணம் வாங்க முடியாத காரணத்திற்காக அவர்களை வேலையிலேயே வைத்துக்கொண்டு கையாடப் பட்ட பணத்தை மாதா மாதம் பிடித்துக்கொண்டு வருகிறார்கள். அந்த மாதிரி சில விஷயங்களை அரசாங்கத்திற்கு தெரிவித்தால் தக்க நடவடிக்கை எடுக்க சர்க்கார் முன்வருவார்களா ? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I have not said that there has not been any misappropriation of funds in any of these Centres. If the hon. Member will bring to my notice any specific instances, I shall have them looked into."

SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" Will the Government consider the sponsoring of legislation to pay in khadi one-tenth of the allowance drawn by M.L.As.? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I do not think that is a feasible proposition."

Poondi Reservoir.

* 727 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) what is the amount of grant and loan so far made to the Corporation of Madras by the Government towards the construction of the Poondi Reservoir;

(*b*) the share of the Corporation of Madras in meeting the expenses of the Reservoir;

(*c*) the interest charged by the Government towards the loan given to the Corporation of Madras; and

(*d*) the maximum period allowed to local bodies for the repayment of such loans?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) The total amount of grants sanctioned so far to the Corporation for the Poondi Reservoir is Rs. 25,90,206 and the total amount of loans is Rs. 39,70,900.

" (*b*) The Corporation's share of the expenditure is Rs. 39·42 lakhs.

" (*c*) The interest charged by Government towards the loans given to the Corporation of Madras has varied from $3\frac{1}{4}$ per cent to $3\frac{3}{4}$ per cent, except in the case of one loan for Rs. 11,345 sanctioned in 1941 for which the rate charged was $4\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.

" (*d*) As far as Corporation is concerned the period mostly allowed for repayment of loans has been 25 years. In the case of other Municipalities, the period varies from 20 to 40 years."

SRI A. RATNAM :—" **May** I know from the Hon. Minister for Health the total estimated cost of the Poondi Reservoir, when the reservoir was constructed and the amount of aid received from the Central Government for its construction? "